STAND. COM. REP. NO. 1403

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 0 9 2015

RE: S.C.R. No. 23 S.D. 1

Honorable Donna Mercado Kim President of the Senate Twenty-Eighth State Legislature Regular Session of 2015 State of Hawaii

## Madam:

Your Committee on Ways and Means, to which was referred S.C.R. No. 23, S.D. 1, entitled:

"SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE HAWAII ACCESS TO JUSTICE COMMISSION TO ASSEMBLE VARIOUS STATE AND COMMUNITY ENTITIES TO DETERMINE WHICH AGENCY OR ORGANIZATION SHOULD ADMINISTER FUNDING FOR CIVIL LEGAL SERVICES TO LOW- AND MODERATE-INCOME INDIVIDUALS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to request the Hawaii Access to Justice Commission to convene a working group of government agencies and community organizations to develop a plan to determine which government agency or community organization should administer funding for civil legal services to low-income and moderate-income individuals and the levels of funding for civil legal services.

Your Committee received written comments in support of this measure from the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, Office of Community Services; the Legal Aid Society of Hawaii; and Volunteer Legal Services Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that in previous years, funding for civil legal services has been provided in the form of grants-in-aid to nonprofit organizations or in the form of appropriations to state agencies, including the Office of Community Services, to

fund purchase-of-services contracts with nonprofit organizations. Furthermore, your Committee is concerned that available funding for civil legal services that are derived from court fees has dropped significantly in recent years. Accordingly, your Committee believes that the efforts of the working group created by this measure will help to ensure adequate funding to continue the provision of civil legal services to low- and moderate-income individuals.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Ways and Means that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 23, S.D. 1, and recommends its adoption.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the members of the Committee on Ways and Means,

JILL N. TOKUDA, Cha

## The Senate Twenty-Eighth Legislature State of Hawai'i

## Record of Votes Committee on Ways and Means WAM

Bill / Resolution No.:* Committee Referral: Date:  SCR 23 SD   JDL, WAM				
The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure.				
If so, then the previous decision was to:				
The Recommendation is:				
Pass, unamended Pass, with amendments Hold Recommit 2312 2311 2310 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
TOKUDA, Jill N. (C)				
KOUCHI, Ronald D. (VC)				
CHUN OAKLAND, Suzanne	V			
DELA CRUZ, Donovan M.				
ENGLISH, J. Kalani	V			
GALUTERIA, Brickwood				
HARIMOTO, Breene				
INOUYE, Lorraine R.				
RIVIERE, Gil	V			
RUDERMAN, Russell E.				
SLOM, Sam				
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TOTAL	10	S	B	l.
Recommendation:  Adopted  Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature:				
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<sup>\*</sup>Only one measure per Record of Votes